

BEDFORD SCHOOL COMMITTEE
December 18, 2018
Bedford High School – Large Group Instruction Room

1. Call to Order

At 7:33 p.m., Mr. Brosgol called to order the meeting of the Bedford School Committee. Other members present included Ms. Scoville, Ms. Santiago, Ms. Guay and Mr. McAllister. Student Representatives Mia Federico and Samantha Gallant were also in attendance.

2. Comments from Public

None

3. Personnel Report

Mr. Sills asked the School Committee to approve the request by Alicia Linsey to attend the National Association for College Admission Counseling committee meeting on January 11th and 12th in Washington DC. As a member of NACAC she is required to attend an Annual Committee meeting. The NACAC pays for all expenses so there is no cost to the district.

Mr. McAllister made the following motion:

MOVED: That the School Committee approve Ms. Linsey's attendance to the National Association for College Admission Counseling committee meeting on January 11-12, 2019 in Washington DC at no cost to the school district.

MOTION SECONDED by Ms. Scoville

MOTION APPROVED: 5-0

Mr. Sills asked the School Committee to approve the request from Ms. Kate Briggs Berrier and Ms. Megan Farrell Hanafin to attend the Reading and Writing Project workshop at Columbia's Teacher's College on February 21-23, 2019. This highly competitive program requires submission of formal applications and both teachers have been accepted. The program will give the teachers the opportunity to gain further understanding of the Writers Workshop, learn how to confer strategies and set individual writing goals and how to develop mentor texts. The cost to the schools will be \$650 plus an estimated \$200 for transportation.

Mr. McAllister made the following motion:

MOVED That the School Committee allow Ms. Berrier and Ms. Hanafin to attend the Reading and Writing Project workshop at Teacher's College at Columbia University in New York City on February 21-23, 2019.

MOTION SECONDED by Ms. Santiago

MOTION APPROVED: 5-0

Mr. Sills made the following personnel announcements:

Appointments

Mikaela Blanchard	Long Term Adjustment Counselor at JGMS (covering LOA)
Joshua French	Custodian at JGMS
Deonte Small	Special Education Teaching Assistant at BHS

Athletics- coaching

Tammy Burke	Varsity Cheerleading (winter) at BHS
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Darin McDonald	Freshman Boys Basketball at BHS
Jeffrey McGrath	JV Basketball at BHS
Vincent McGrath	Varsity Boys Basketball at BHS
Michael O'Shaughnessy	JV Girls Basketball at BHS
Alvin Mayard	Varsity Girls Basketball
James Byrnes	Boys Basketball at JGMS
James Greenwood	Girls Basketball at JGMS
Andrew Scarpaci	Varsity Hockey Assistant
Jarrett Scarpaci	Varsity Hockey
Sophia Grammenos	Indoor Track co-assistant at BHS
Charles Humphrey	Indoor Track co-assistant at BHS
Joseph Pike	Varsity Indoor Track at BHS
Gerald Peters	Rifle Team at BHS
Derek Johnson	Varsity Ski Team at BHS
Justin Gainer	Swim Assistant at BHS
Beth Billouin	Varsity Swim at BHS
Sam Sprangel	Varsity Wrestling at BHS

4. School Facilities Nomination Application

Mr. Sills shared the nomination application to name the girls Varsity Softball field for Helen Carol Gfroerer "Miss G". The application described Miss G's character and deeds. After reading the letter, Mr. Sills reminded everyone that the schools recently named a field for Coach Dave Wilson.

Mr. McAllister commented that it was notable that Miss G joined Bedford High School one year after it opened. He remembers when he attended that everyone in the school knew Miss G. She had a big impact on athletics, especially girls' athletics. He thinks that naming a field after her is the perfect way to honor her memory.

All other School Committee members agreed.

Ms. Scoville made the following motion:

MOVED: That the School Committee approve the nomination to rename "C" field after Miss G. (Helen Carol Gfroerer).

MOTION SECONDED by Ms. Santiago

MOTION APPROVED: 5-0

5. Superintendent's Report

Mr. Sills asked Miss Gallant, student representative, to discuss a recent workshop that she and a few other high school students recently attended.

Miss Gallant explained that she attend a day-long conference sponsored by EDCO. The "IDEA" conference (Initiatives for Developing Equity and Achievement for Students) was with students from other nearby schools to discuss race issues and equity. The group participated in a variety of activities as a means to discuss race and ethnicity. Workshops were held on race, identity, ethnicity, and how to address stereo types. One of her favorite activities was participating in the affinity groups to discuss and share experiences. Miss Gallant said she and the other students plan on meeting with the high school teachers on the January Teacher Workshop Day to do the

affinity group activity. They will also try to develop unity get-togethers for the Bedford community.

6. FY'20 Budget

Mr. Sills distributed a hand out showing the budget history. The information highlighted the fact that over the last eleven years the average annual budget increase has been 3.24%.

Mr. Sills also shared charts comparing Bedford with other comparative school districts. These charts also compared residential home values. Mr. Sills said that this data suggests that Bedford is getting a good return for its investment in education.

The FY'20 budget highlights include the following:

- Maintenance of Effort (MOE) budget is \$41,550,250 (2.77% increase). This is the amount of funding needed to maintain the same programs and to meet contractual obligations. This number is approximately \$200,000 more than the MOE for FY'19 due to adding a .5 reading teacher and a 1.0 athletic trainer as well as an increase in the number of out-of-district students.
- The FY'20 expansion budget request is \$484,973 (1.20% increase)
- The total FY'20 budget request at this time is 42,035,223 (3.97% increase)

Mr. Sills reviewed the drivers of the budget request:

- Enrollment continues to be the largest driver. There is a need for a new 2nd grade teacher, a new elementary ESL teacher, and a .4 increase in chemistry teacher at the high school.
- Special education and social emotional support needs also require additional personnel.
- "Teaching All Students" requires program improvements in personnel and resources

School Committee members reviewed the data and asked for some additional information to help them fully understand the budget request. For example, Ms. Guay would like to see ESL information from other districts as well as a summary of when the new ESL guidelines become effective.

Ms. Santiago and Ms. Scoville suggested it would be helpful to create a visual explaining the different special education programs offered at each of the schools.

Ms. Guay wanted to see more details in the District Special Education budget. She also wanted to know why we have fewer IEPs now than in the past.

Mr. Sills discussed other areas of need:

- An additional Adjustment Counselor at Davis is needed due to the workload and amount of complex issues facing Davis students.
- The Lighthouse Program at the high school (for students who return to school after hospitalization for medical or mental health issues) may need more support. It is currently managed by a Guidance Counselor who still carries a case load. Further analysis is under way.
- The K-12 Reading/ELA Program Administrator job is too big for one person. Mr. Sills would like to have a 6-12 position and a K-5 position.
- Lane School needs a .2 Gifted teacher to work with small groups of high math students. This will allow the current Gifted teacher to become the full time elementary math

coordinator. This type of programming is no longer needed at Davis since the curriculum is now project-based.

All in all, Mr. Sills is requesting 7.8 new FTEs in the FY'20 budget.

Mr. Sills also presented his "wish list" alternatives for FY'20:

- Creating slots for low income and ELL preschool students (no more than \$17,800)
- After school offerings for the SAIL Program (\$9,522)
- Additional bus runs for Davis students
- District Equity and Diversity Coordinator

Mr. Sills also presented what he thinks the district will need in the FY21 budget:

- Special Education Teacher for JGMS Sub-separate SAIL program
- District BCBA for SAIL
- 3 or 4 Behavior Teaching Assistants for JGMS SAIL Program
- Expanded Lighthouse Program at BHS
- 1.0 Custodian for Davis School (after we complete an analysis that accounts for adding space to town buildings too)
- .2 Human Resources Administrator at Central Office

Mr. Sills also shared Budget Roll-up charts with the School Committee. These charts dissected the proposed budget request in various ways such as salary v. non-salary and regular education v. special education, etc.

Ms. Guay suggested that we give the Finance Committee additional information on the range of costs of out-of-district tuition and transportation to help understand how our in-house programs save money.

Ms. Scoville thinks that a district position for Equity and Diversity is important.

Ms. Federico, student representative, said that more support for students returning from hospitalizations is needed.

Ms. Guay suggested pointing out what expenses are required by law in the MOE budget.

Ms. Scoville said more detail is needed in defending why the district needs 2 Program Administrators in Reading.

Mr. Brosgol said that there is an approximate \$200,000 difference between our budget request and Finance Committee recommendation so there is more work to do.

School Committee members thanked Mr. Sills and Mr. Coelho for putting together such a comprehensive budget request for FY'20.

7. Minutes

Mr. McAllister made the following motion:

MOVED: That the School Committee approve the minutes of the November 6, 2018 School Committee meeting as amended.

MOTION SECONDED by Ms. Santiago

MOTION APPROVED: 5-0-0

8. Other News

Mr. McAllister announced that he will not seek another term on the School Committee. He said it was a difficult decision. He encourages any interested candidate to contact him directly (or any other member) for information.

9. Adjournment

Mr. McAllister made the following motion:


MOVED: Motion to adjourn at 9:40 p.m., not to reopen.

MOTION SECONDED by Ms. Guay

MOTION APPROVED: 5-0

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Brosgol	Yes
Ms. Santiago	Yes
Ms. Scoville	Yes
Ms. Guay	Yes
Mr. McAllister	Yes



School Committee Secretary



Date



BEDFORD SCHOOL COMMITTEE

December 18, 2018

Exhibits/Documents

5.

December 18, 2018

- Nomination Application for Naming School Facilities for Helen Carol Gfroerer
- Superintendent's FY20 Budget Proposal presentation
- Superintendent's FY20 Budget Proposal